

HCS HB 253 -- CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (Swan)

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: Standing Committee on Elementary and Secondary Education

Currently, a school district is authorized to create and enter into a partnership with area career centers, comprehensive high schools, industry, and businesses to develop and implement a pathway for students to: enroll in a program of career and technical education while in high school; participate and complete an internship or apprenticeship during their final year of high school; obtain the industry certification or credentials applicable to their program or career and technical education and internship or apprenticeship. This bill allows a school district to rely on technical coursework and skills assessments developed for industry-recognized certificates and credentials.

The bill requires the Career and Technical Education Advisory Council to annually review, update, approve, and recommend a list of industry certifications, state-issued professional licenses, and occupational competency assessments. A school district may use the list as a resource in establishing programs of study that meet their regional workforce needs under Section 170.029, RSMo.

This bill also modifies the composition of the Career and Technical Education Advisory Council by adding the Director of the Department of Economic Development, or his or her designee.

This bill is similar to HB 188 (2017).